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Cooler
Partly cloudy with a
high of 45 degrees.

Defender of the news
Managing editor of Chicago
newspaper to address students.

12 Last hurrah?
Basketball seniors prepare
to take final home bows.

THE Daily Eastern News

"Tell the truth and don't be afraid"

Thursday, February 23, 1995

Eastern Illinois University
Charleston, Ill. 61920
Vol. 80, No. 108
12 pages

Students: Smoke free and no increase in fee

Officials not surprised with low turnout

By **SCOTT BOEHMER**
Staff writer

Election officials say they are not surprised by the low voter turnout in Wednesday's Student Government special election.

Caroline Magdziasz, executive director of the student body Elections Committee, said although only 662 ballots were cast in the election, she did not expect a large voter turnout because of the issues on the ballot.

The ballot contained referendums proposing a smoke-free campus and a student activity fee increase of \$4.50 per semester and an uncontested candidate for position of vice president for public affairs.

Student Body President Blake Wood said he is satisfied with

♥ See **ELECTION** Page 2

Students vote against activity fee hike, for smoke-free campus

HEIDI KEIBLER
Student government editor

Students voted 435-221 against a student activity fee increase of \$4.50 per semester and 359-300 in favor of a smoke-free campus in the Student Government special election Wednesday.

Glenn Fundator, vice president for public affairs, also received 480 votes in his uncontested bid to continue serving in his position until July.

Jeff Kocis, vice president for financial affairs, said "the students themselves will suffer" because the fee increase failed.

"If it would've passed, we would have been able to keep the existing programming and increase it," he said. "Now we'll have to cut it."

Kocis said he "can't speculate at this time" where cuts will be made.

The fee increase, which would have raised the student activity fee from \$14.50 per semester to \$19 per semester, would have been allocated to the Apportionment Board, which would in turn allocate money to itself,

the Division of Recreational Sports, Student Government and University Board.

In addition, admission charges to UB events would have been eliminated if the fee increase had passed Wednesday, UB Chairman Keith Lipke said.

Lipke said he is disappointed that students will have to continue paying admission charges.

"As far as the fee increase not passing, fine, that's students' opinion," he said. "But I'm upset at the fact that myself and other students have to pay to go to events."

"If there was no admission charges, more students would come to events," he added. "Yes, obviously students can afford \$1, but it's more incentive to come if they don't have to pay at all."

Lipke said the failure of the fee increase will "definitely" force the UB to cut its programming for next year.

"Our budget for next year is going to be cut significantly," he said. "We're not going to be able to program as much; I don't know where else we can get money from."



JOHN COX/Staff photographer

Jill Boehm, a sophomore elementary education major, fills out a special election ballot for Student Government Wednesday afternoon in Coleman Hall.

The Student Senate will take the students' call for a smoke-free campus to Eastern President David Jorns next week.

The Staff and Faculty senates recommended to Jorns two weeks ago that the campus become smoke free after

a campus-wide survey indicated that a majority of faculty and students are in favor of the plan.

Senate member Rick Tucker said he will write a resolution next week recommending the campus become

• See **VOTE** Page 2

Police may change rape policy

By **MELISSA McCLAIN**
Staff writer

The campus police department may be changing its procedure for sexual assault cases, including how it will handle what the victim wants in acquaintance rape or date rape cases.

"We want what is best for the victim," said campus police Chief Tom Larson. "We would like for the victim to have the option of going directly to the Judicial Board."

The possible change, which Larson stressed is still being considered, would send victims straight to the Judicial Affairs Board instead of campus police if they are not interested in pursuing criminal action.

In the past, police sometimes have written incident reports even if the victim did not wish to press criminal charges. The reports would be sent to the board, where victims could ask the university to consider the case.

Several sexual assault victims specifically requested that a police report not be filed against the suspect because they did not wish to

"This act shields the student from any public scrutiny unless there is a court subpoena sent or a written release from the student."

— Elizabeth Schafer

Judicial advisor for the Office of Judicial Affairs

make the incident a criminal case.

"If a victim files a police report, then that information becomes part of the Freedom of Information Act," Larson said. "Of course this makes it available to the public. Anyone who wants to come in and view the statistic is allowed to under the Freedom of Information Act."

However, if victims reports the sexual assault to the Judicial Board, they are protected under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, also known as the Buckley Amendment, said Elizabeth Schafer, a judicial adviser for the Office of Judicial Affairs. This allows the victim's case to remain confidential.

"This act shields the student

from any public scrutiny unless there is a court subpoena sent or a written release from the student," Schafer said.

Larson said, "We may ask the victim when they come in to report the sexual assault whether or not they would prefer to go directly to the Judicial Affairs Board instead of filing the police report."

Allowing victims to go directly to the Judicial Affairs Board would help by protecting their confidentiality, Larson added.

"Five out of six of the past victims of acquaintance rape did not want to file a police report," Larson said. "They did not want to go to court and did not want to press charges against the suspect."

Office taking steps to improve efficiency, image

By **CHAD GALLAGHER**
Staff writer

Eastern's Financial Aid Office is trying to shed its image as a headache to students by taking steps aimed at improving efficiency.

Several students, speaking to an accreditation team from the North Central Association earlier this month, complained that Financial Aid Office workers are rude, forms often have to be reworked or re-sent and money is late in arriving.

In response to the comments, members of the Student Government and Eastern administration are trying to address the problems.

John Flynn, director of Financial Aid, said although his office has received many complaints this year, some problems should be relieved because of new policies.

One improvement for next year is a direct loan program, which should speed

† See **AID** Page 2

"What I walked into was clearly the clearest case of hazing I've ever seen." She declined to be specific.

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to the EIU community***

Faculty studies focus of final dean candidate

By **JAMIE RILEY**
Staff writer

The final candidate for the dean of the College of Sciences position stressed using the Internet and distance learning as two means of continuing education for faculty members.

Lida G. Wall, chairwoman of the department of speech and hearing sciences at Ohio State University, said Wednesday that using existing technology is a cheap method of keeping faculty – and students – up to date in their fields.

She said faculty members should take advantage of discussion groups on the Internet to keep up on current issues in their fields.

Wall said she would like to return to a smaller university where interaction with students is greater, after working for the past 15 years at Ohio

State in positions from instructor to chairwoman.

Wall, speaking at an open forum with students, said she is interested in Eastern because of the combination of disciplines in the College of Sciences, including natural and social sciences, and because of the excellence of the faculty members in the department.

“Eastern has wonderful teachers who have won some academic achievement awards ... and are very good at bringing in grants,” Wall said.

However, Wall discussed at least one problem within the Eastern’s College of Sciences – a shortage of funds.

“There is a lot of shortage of equipment, and the college needs funds for that equipment,” Wall said. “If I am able to make changes, I would increase the equipment resources to this college.”



JOANNE CLARK/Staff photographer
Lida Wall (center) speaks to students in an open forum Wednesday afternoon in the Arcola/Tuscola Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. Wall is the final candidate in the university’s search for a new dean of the College of Sciences.

Wall also said with a travel budget as limited as Eastern’s, faculty can’t be expected to travel to seminars.

“Other ways (of continuing education) could be through distance learning,” Wall said. “That’s one mechanism that would be for students as well as faculty.”

Wall earned her doctorate in audiology from Ohio State University and her master’s degree from the University of Wyoming, completing her undergraduate work in speech communication at the University of Northern Colorado.

Terry Weidner, chairman of the search committee, said the committee will make its recommendation to Barbara Hill, vice president for academic affairs, within two weeks.

Eastern blood drive tops Southern totals

By **DAVE BARISTA**
Staff writer

Eastern’s Red Cross blood drive fell short of its goal Wednesday but still managed to move ahead of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale in the two universities’ annual “Blood Battle.”

A total of 247 productive units of blood were collected here Wednesday. Southern, in comparison, collected 239 units.

“Blood Battle” is a week-long competition between

two schools that are striving to collect a total of 1,400 pints of blood by Friday.

Eastern has taken the three-day lead in the contest, said Dave Cline, blood services consultant for the Missouri-Illinois blood-services region of the Red Cross.

“We believe that our total is 724 units of a goal of 850, and SIU is at 710,” Cline said.

As of Monday, Eastern was 27 pints behind Southern. Eastern took in 202 pints Monday and 285 pints Tuesday.

Dean candidate stresses greater funding for Eastern

By **BRITT CARSON**
Staff writer

One of four candidates for the position of dean of the College of Sciences said, if given the position, he would like to generate more funding for the college.

Andrew Goudy is a professor of chemistry at Westhaven University in Westchester, Penn. He has spent 18 years at Westhaven and has served terms as department chairman and associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Goudy said he is confident

he has the experience necessary to fulfill the dean’s responsibilities.

“I have been with the faculty for 18 years and understand the concerns and issues of the faculty,” Goudy said. “I hold the necessary background and understand the problems associated with the position.”

Goudy said he has experience working with faculty and sees Eastern as an opportunity to work with quality professors. Eastern’s College of Sciences has an excellent teaching program and students, he said.

“(Eastern’s College of Science) has a strong emphasis on undergraduate education for students and research that directly involves students,” Goudy said. “I would be supportive of these goals and try to support all faculty to achieve teaching excellence.”

Goudy said he was first attracted to Eastern because it is similar in size and structure to Westhaven. Both universities have roughly 10,000 students and emphasize undergraduate education.

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Campus must accept entertainment deficit

When I was a freshman, students were able to enter the bars at 19. Although Charleston streets were packed on Friday and Saturday nights, not many black students went to the bars. This was largely because bar owners refused to allow their disc jockeys to play black music – especially rap.

Instead, many black students went to the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union parties or house parties on the weekend. Union parties started at 10 p.m. and ended at 1 a.m. House parties started shortly after the Union parties.

The only problem was that Charleston police would come and close down house parties a few hours after they had started.

My freshman year, I accepted this abuse solely because students older than I had accepted it. What I failed to realize was I would grow extremely tired of this treatment as time passed.

Presently, the entertainment scene for black students here at Eastern is pathetic. The number of black parties has decreased because of problems with having a place to hold them.

Today, many black students gather in apartments to provide a social atmosphere. On Feb. 3, some friends and I bought something to drink and went to an apartment. Eventually, people became loud and the police paid us a visit.

They informed us that someone had complained about the music and noise and asked that we tone it down. We were also told that if they had to return, we could be arrested.

After the police left, we decided to go to the Union party. I really don't like Union parties, but I planned to go because there was nothing else to do. When I arrived at 12:15 a.m., I was denied admission because I didn't arrive before midnight.

There was only one black function given that night, and I couldn't get in. As I drove home, I saw white people going out, not worried about beating a deadline.

Saturday night was even worse. There wasn't even a Union party to attend. So my friends and I had a party at an apartment. Once again, everyone was having a good time before the police came. The police walked through the apartment asking questions and destroyed the mood.

The weekend of Feb. 3 was the last time I could watch this happen without voicing my opinion.

I believe that this problem is caused by two institutions. The first institution is the police. Although many people throw all of the blame on the police, I can't do that. Someone reported a disturbance, and the police were merely doing their job by looking into it.

However, when they do show up, the police will humiliate themselves by showing up in large numbers as if they were dealing with hardened criminals. Then they will speak sarcastically, as if they have no problem with taking everyone to jail. It is as if they are on a power trip, and the people to whom they pay visits can't reach them.

As far as I'm concerned, Eastern should bear most of the weight for this problem. People should realize that Eastern only offers a possible two Union parties for the weekend.

Many people reading this column probably never have been to a Union party before. Just imagine going to one of the bars and knowing more than two-thirds of the people present. There is music, but there is no alcohol. All of the people who come form one big circle to watch black greeks step around the party. This doesn't sound like much of a night now, does it?

This university is so funny to me. Every fall semester I



Lawrence L. Chambliss

"Black students can adapt into the white way of life or they can run the risk of trying to maintain their own way of life."

read in the paper that "minority enrollment is going up" or "Eastern plans to increase enrollment of minorities to a certain percent." For what? I know black students who go home every weekend because there is nothing to do in Charleston.

White students can finish classes on Friday and choose from a number of bars to attend. But black students can finish classes on Friday, and they better hope someone reserved the Union and plans to throw a party.

A white student can get her hair done from a variety of salons when she needs this service. A black woman has to travel two-and-a-half hours for the same service.

Black students rely on houses and apartments to provide a social scene more than the bars. When we try to use these places, we have to worry about the police arriving and threatening to arrest people. This could be the only black gathering in Charleston. It is over now because of the complaints. I didn't come to Eastern to risk going to jail on the weekends for relieving stress, especially when I didn't have that problem before I came here.

Now I've been in Charleston long enough to know that outside of house parties and Union parties, black students will have no other form of entertainment in Charleston. Look at the problems caused by trying to establish a hair salon located on campus that caters to black students. Imagine how hard it would be to do something for black students off campus.

I do believe that it should be the responsibility of whomever is in charge of recruiting minority students to let these people know there is nothing to serve as entertainment outside of Union parties and house parties.

The admissions personnel should tell them about the controversies that resulted after trying to establish a hair salon that caters to black students. Show them the articles that are being printed in The Daily Eastern News about these issues. Let them know that once they decide to come to Eastern, their way of life, as they once knew it, will change for the worse. Black students can adapt into the white way of life, or they can run the risk of trying to maintain their own way of life.

Trying to maintain their own way of life could have them going to jail, and it really doesn't have to be like that.

I wish I knew Eastern was like this before I decided to come to this school; I wouldn't have come. I just think the university should seriously look into this problem and make immediate changes. If Eastern is unwilling to do this, then it should tell minority high school seniors that there is really nothing here to serve as entertainment for them. Tell them the truth.

– Lawrence L. Chambliss is a senior psychology major and guest columnist for The Daily Eastern News.

Love conquers even parental condemnation

In junior high school, my parents insisted I leave the house with a hat on during winter. I remember hating it and was convinced I looked silly. As soon as I was out of their view, I'd take it off.

Once I reached the bus stop, my head would ache from the cold. Still, I did it the next and every other day following.

I suffer no present injury from disobeying my parents and I now wear a hat when the temperature falls below 30. I know my mom and dad were being rational and trying to keep me healthy.

Some parents' rules are much more forbidding, though, and can cause injury rather than protection. Parents such as my cousin's prohibit their daughter from doing something a lot different, and she's disobeying them just like I did.

Rebecca, at age 13, fell in seventh-grade love with a black classmate. She was happy, having fun and learning the color of people's skin didn't matter.

When faced with her parents' opposition, she lied about her relationship and told them she and her boyfriend had broke up.

"They told me they didn't want me to go out with him," she said. "Me and your dad don't like black and white together' they said. Their reason was it's just life."

For two months, Rebecca hid the relationship, making her headache much more painful and long-lasting than mine ever was.

"I felt really bad because I usually tell my mom everything," my cousin said. "Me and my mom fight a lot about it. I almost feel like I can't talk to her about anything anymore."

The many phobias that surround interracial dating are well known: the fear of betraying one's race, breaking friendships, getting dirty looks and lengthy stares. This is more than enough to frighten a person from loving across color lines, without considering parental fear.

Non-supportive parents are creating a different child. They don't realize their fear creeps into their kids' hearts and minds and causes a mess of confusion.

"I didn't know what to do. I was confused," she said. "I really didn't think it would matter."

It wasn't until Rebecca met a woman at her church whose daughter was in an interracial marriage that she started feeling more comfortable with her decision.

"In God's eyes we're all the human race," the woman told her.

Still, Rebecca feels a painful distance from her parents.

Her experience convinced me the power of parental support and openmindedness can never be underestimated.

Two years ago, after coming to college, I started dating a black man. My parents never told me not to. And after I told them, thankfully they never did.

"I don't think race entered into the picture," my mom said when I asked for her opinion. "It was more personality. It was a matter of not knowing him."

Unlike Rebecca, I didn't have to worry about disrespecting my parents or society. I know that what I did wasn't wrong or bad.

My actions even opened my parents' minds to the whole issue of race.

"It made me more aware of how bigoted people are from the comments they make," my mom said. "As long as you're not being hurt by a relationship, either one of you for that matter, it's fine."

The hurt, in the long run, is exactly what matters to people like Rebecca.

"They don't try to accept my feelings," she said.

Mothers' and fathers' restrictions on interracial relationships are not like warning a child not to cross the street without looking both ways or forcing him or her to be home by midnight. Children still don't look both ways, and they're still sneaking in past curfew.

They are hurting and confused, and none of it is their fault.

– Karen Wolden is activities editor and a guest columnist for The Daily Eastern News.



Karen Wolden

Dance show to be held

Event to focus on African-American influence

By **CHERYL BOYCE**
Staff writer

A presentation examining the influence of African Americans on theater and dance will be offered at 7 p.m. Friday in the University Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

The event, in celebration of Black History Month, will

include a slide show, a poetry discussion and line-dancing lessons by Eastern students and faculty.

The slide show will consist of about 60 slides presented by Ollie M. Ray, professor of health studies, and William Colvin, director of Afro-American Studies.

The two researched and developed the presentation that takes the audience from the days of slavery to the present to explain how African Americans have influenced dance throughout the years, Ray said.

They will explain the influence not only in Africa but also in the United States.

Ray said she hopes the presentation will give participants an understanding of why there are so many variations to certain dances.

Students and faculty will teach a number of country, rock and classic line dances. They will take students step-by-step through dances such as the Cab Driver, the Hully Gully, the Four Corner Stomp, the Yakety Bump and the Hustle.

Ray, who will teach many of the steps, has extensive training in dance at the university level, including modern, tap, Latin, Mexican, folk, square, round, contra, ballroom, jazz and vernacular.

Teachers scholarship available

By **BROOKE WALKER**
Staff writer

All Eastern students currently enrolled in a vocational teacher certification program are eligible to apply for a Vocational Education Scholarship.

The scholarship, which has been designated for this semester, is offered through the Illinois Congress of Parents and Teachers. The scholarship is worth \$400.

William Hine, dean of the School of Adult and Continuing Education, said the scholarship will be awarded to either one or two students for the spring semester.

“(The scholarship is aimed at) good, highly

qualified students who want to go out and be educators in the areas of technology education, secondary education, business education and health education,” Hine said.

A selection committee chaired by Jill Owen, assistant professor of physical education, will choose the scholarship recipient.

Owen said applicants’ scholastic achievement, relative financial need, leadership and commitment to their chosen field will be considered during the selection process.

A decision will probably be made within two weeks after the March 8 application deadline, she added.

Application forms are available at Hine’s office, 205 Blair Hall.

Editor to address civil rights, press

By **SHARI WASHINGTON**
Staff writer

Michael Brown, managing editor for the Chicago Defender, will speak at 6 p.m. tonight about “The Black Press and Civil Rights” in the Effingham Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Brown is the founder and national coordinator of CENTER JAE, which stands for Combined Efforts Nationally to Evoke Racial Justice and Equality, a national African-American human-rights organization.

“The Chicago Defender is an important paper in the history of this country, and students will be surprised at the role it plays especially in the matters of civil rights,” said Minabere Ibelema, professor of journalism and adviser for the campus chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists.

The NABJ invited Brown to speak in honor of Black History Month.

Brown is the author of

two books, “Image of a Man,” and “Making a Genius of Your Child.” He currently is writing two works that will be published later this year.

Brown has held a number of jobs in the social work field, including working with the Boys Club, serving as a foster-care social worker and being a community organizer in a Chicago Housing Authority development.

Brown has taught at the University of Texas at El Paso. He also was executive producer and host of a radio talk show on National Public Radio.

Brown was once the curator of the African Collection for the Museum of Southwestern and Cultural History, and coordinator for Child Development Services at a U.S. Army defense center in Fort Bliss, Texas.

Brown received his bachelor’s degree from George Williams College and his master’s and doctoral degrees in psychology from the University of Chicago.

Free fitness assessments offered to students, faculty

By **TETSUYA KIKUMASA**
Staff writer

The department of physical education is currently offering a free fitness assessment program to all Eastern students, faculty and staff.

The program, run by senior physical education majors,

offers five assessments, including blood pressure and body fat tests, muscular flexibility and strength tests and aerobic fitness.

“This is an excellent program run by students. It is useful for anybody who either already doing exercise or for who would like to start exer-

cising. It is free, so people should take advantage of it,” John Emmett, associate professor of physical education and faculty adviser of the program, said.

The first three tests are quick and easy, and may take five to 10 minutes to obtain results, Emmett said. For mus-

cular strength assessment, participants try eight different weight-lifting exercises to examine the strength of different muscle groups.

In the aerobic fitness test, participants ride a stationary bicycle twice for a period of two to three minutes to check their heart rates at two inten-

sity levels, Emmett added.

The results of these tests will be available within a week, and fitness advising based on the results will be conducted.

The department began the program in February 1994 to provide services to students, faculty and staff.

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THE Daily Eastern News

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ACROSS

1 More pronounced

7 Ladies

12 Low of the land

14 Run

16 Proceeds as in a car chase

17 They can't be beat

18 Blind Faith

19 Pre-Sound Moore role, with "the"

21 "On Boxing" author

23 Zodiac animal

24 Wooden Mortimer

26 Liba burman leaves

27 Adam's apple warmer

28 Succession of wine

31 BO's cartoon character

32 Yankee #9

34 Governors of Thornfield

36 New Hampshire's "Live Free or Die"

38 Seasonal product

41 Jalapeno hot stuff

44 San Antonio architect

46 Director Lubitch

47 Ugly looks

48 Iron pumper's routine

49 Golden (redneck)

50 Turkey meat request

54 Variety

55 Giving the once-over

56 Year in Conuto's life

58 Dodgeon's butcher

61 Utah emblem

63 Hall of broadcasting

64 Was useful

65 Country's countins

66 Gressed the road

DOWN

1 Throatback

2 Chance with dips and leaps

3 New Mexico's _____ Lake

4 Amer. election day

5 Left headers

6 Oodles

7 Habitants' home

8 Compliment, in a way

9 DeeJay's disk

10 Precinct

11 Total control

12 Three-ourd month chill

13 La _____ Milan

14 Palestinian

16 Just-burn cow?

18 Isbn, for one

19 Hockey great

20 Champion's claim

21 Kind of firm

22 Frisky pear

23 Sniggled

27 Peelable fruit

28 Clean lava

29 Preparation for a fall

30 Tax form deduction

31 About blood feet

32 H&R town

34 Like certain customs

36 Went downhill

38 Better balanced

40 1983 Indy 500 champ

42 Small model

43 Duds

45 Straws's "_____ Haidenbach"

47 Holed up

THURSDAY										FEBRUARY 23		
P.M.	WTWO-2	WCIA-3	WAND-7, 17	ESPN-24	USA-26	WGN-16, 9C	WILL-12	LIF-40	Fox-8, 55	DSC-33	WEIU-9, 51	TBS-18
6:00 6:30	Wheel of Fortune Cops	News Entmt. Tonight	News Wheel of Fortune	SportsCenter College Basketball	Wings Wings	Love Connection Jeffersons	MacNeil, Lehrer	Designing Women Designing Women	Roseanne Roseanne	Beyond 2000 Next Step	Carmen Sandiego Bill Nye	...Boss? (6:05) ...Boss? (6:35)
7:00 7:30	Mad About You Friends	Movie:Simon & Simon	Matlock		Murder, She Wrote	Peggy Flemming Ice Stories	Illinois Gardner This Old House	Unsolved Mysteries	Martin Living Singles	Mysterious Univ. Magical Worlds	Little House on The Prairie	NBA Basketball
8:00 8:30	Seinfeld Madman/People				Movie:Cop	Gift of Love	Cane Toads	Movie:Compromising Positions	New York Undercover	Movie Magic Know Zones	St. Elsewhere	
9:00 9:30	ER	48 Hours	Day One			News	Mystery!		Star Trek: The Next Generation	Beyond 2000	News	Movie: Platoon
10:00 10:30	News Jay Leno(10:35)	News David (10:35)	News Married... (10:35)	SportsCenter	Wings Wings	Night Court Simon & Simon	Being Served? Movie:	Unsolved Mysteries	M*A*S*H* M*A*S*H*	World of Wonder	Red/Green Show Women's Basketball	Leader

Hawks trade Sutter, Ysebaert

CHICAGO (AP) – The Chicago Blackhawks on Wednesday traded wingers Rich Sutter and Paul Ysebaert to the Tampa Bay Lightning for winger Jim Cummins and defensemen Jeff Buchanan and Tom Tilley.

Chicago gave up two players who combined for 61 points last season.

This season, Ysebaert has four goals and five assists in 15 games, while Sutter has no points in 15 games.

Ysebaert has his lowest production of his career after being acquired from Winnipeg. Claimed on waivers from St. Louis last season, Sutter joined his brothers, coach Darryl and center Brent in Chicago.

Where the heck are we?

With ludicrous travel, many Mid-Con teams find themselves asking this

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) – A season-long odyssey including flights to New York and bus rides through snow in the Midwest is almost over for Troy State, a south Alabama team in the geographically incorrect Mid-Continent Conference.

The Trojans, who just got back Tuesday from a swing through Charleston, Ill., and Valparaiso, Ind., head to Chicago on Saturday to play Northeastern Illinois. They've already played road games in upstate New York, Connecticut, Ohio, and Missouri – all locales in the conference they joined this season.

"It just seems that they come back with some horror story after just about every trip," said sports information director Tom Ensey.

The Mid-Con desperately needed teams after six jumped to the Midwestern Collegiate Conference after last season. So the league absorbed five teams

from the defunct East Coast Conference – Buffalo, Central Connecticut State, Chicago State, Northeastern Illinois and Troy State. The other ECC team – Hofstra – joined the nine-member North Atlantic Conference.

The shuffling is part of a trend in sports these days: Not only do conferences often fail to make geographic sense, but many don't stay together long enough for fans to know who's in them.

"Some of the movement doesn't make a lot of sense," said Mid-Con Commissioner Jon Steinbrecher. "There are reasons to move – better exposure, increasing revenue, things like that. I would argue that the schools that left us didn't do that."

When Troy State was looking for a conference after the ECC disbanded, the Mid-Con was the closest fit, even though Troy was 859 miles from Buffalo and 703 miles from Chicago.

"You might say, 'Boy, that's kind of crazy,'" Steinbrecher said. "Well, it really isn't. You can get places fairly quickly now."

Tell that to the beleaguered Trojans, who spend countless hours on planes and buses, playing cards, reading and listening to music to pass the time.

On their last trip, the team flew from Montgomery to Atlanta, and from Atlanta to Chicago. Then there was a 31/2



hour bus ride to the Eastern Illinois campus, where they played the Panthers on Saturday. After the game, the Trojans got back on the bus and rode three hours to Valparaiso, where they played Monday night.

"The people at the airport lost a brief case with stat sheets, media guides and all that," said senior Cameron Boozer. "I think it ended up in Decatur, Ill. The airline had to drive it down to us."

Ensey described a road trip last month that sent the Trojans trucking through the Midwest's frozen tundra for games against Western Illinois and Missouri-Kansas City.

"We flew into St. Louis, then bused three hours to Western Illinois – you can't get there from anywhere – through pea soup fog with snow on the ground," Ensey recalled. "Then we bused through the badlands of Missouri. It looked like some cowboy movie."

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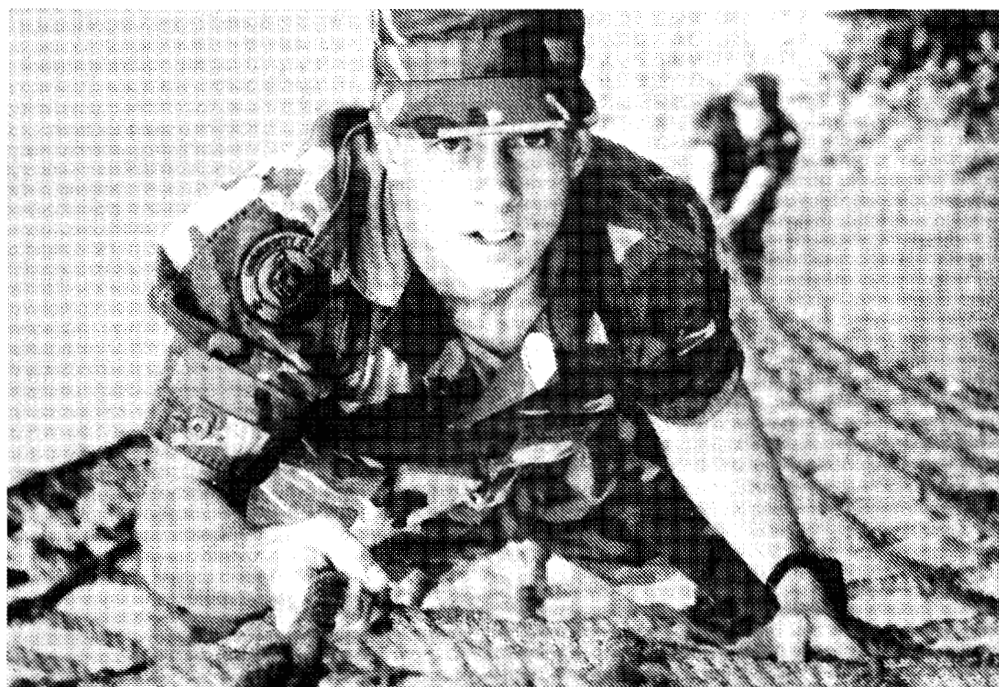
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Former Olympian Louganis found to be HIV positive

CHICAGO (AP) – Greg Louganis, the first man to sweep diving gold medals at consecutive Olympics, is infected with the virus that causes AIDS, the Chicago Sun-Times reported Wednesday.

Louganis, who won four gold medals for springboard and platform diving at the Olympics in 1984 and 1988, will disclose that he is HIV positive in an interview on ABC's "20-20" on Friday, the newspaper said.

Louganis, 35, disclosed that he was homosexual at the Gay Games in New York last year. Since retiring from diving, he has pursued an acting career and appeared in an off-Broadway play.

The Sun-Times reported that in his forthcoming Random House book, "Breaking the Surface," Louganis revealed that he knew he was HIV positive when he struck his head during a dive at the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

The knowledge that his blood had spilled into the pool deeply troubled him, because he didn't know whether he had inadvertently exposed others to the virus, the Sun-Times quotes the book as saying.

Women

Men

OVC

♥ From Page 12

season tournament. If all goes well against Valpo (15-8; 11-4 in conference), Polka and company may be back for one more game this season at Lantz.

The Lady Crusaders, who are fourth in conference and would host a first-round tournament game against the fifth-place team, would be only one game ahead of the Lady Panthers if they lose to Eastern. Both teams finish the season with road games against Buffalo (16-6; 11-3 in conference) and Youngstown State (14-8; 12-2 in conference). If both teams finish with the same record, the Lady Panthers would win the tie-breaker since they would have defeated Valpo twice.

If the Lady Panthers lose, they would likely finish fifth above Troy State (12-12; 6-9 in conference) and would probably have to travel to Buffalo or Valparaiso for the first round of the tournament.

"This game is something that should be fun for our

♦ From Page 12

went to the NCAA Tournament.

One of the teams will walk away a winner, and head coach Rick Samuels is confident it will be his squad.

"They've had their (streak) long enough," Samuels said. "We would like to have ours continue into next season."

Besides the streak, Samuels is also focusing on another advantage the Panthers didn't have in their 78-74 loss to the Crusaders – the home court advantage.

"We want to focus on the emotion," Samuels said. "It ought to be prevalent on our home court. We've had some exciting and fun to watch home games this season, and this should be no exception."

Besides senior Andre Rodriguez, Samuels has lost yet another player for the season.

Junior Walter Graham came down with a bout of pneumonia this month and has not recovered as quickly as Samuels would have wanted.

"Walt won't play this season due to the pneumonia," Samuels said. "He's been slow to recover."

† From Page 12

"I don't think how our team performs has a thing to do with it," McBee said. "That's not why they're here. They just happened to pick a date when we had a game."

Eastern has sought an alternative to its current Mid-Continent Conference commitment since the November, 1993 exodus of six schools from the Mid-Con to the Midwestern Collegiate Conference.

The Mid-Con later refortified itself with the addition of six new members, leaving the league with member schools stretching from Missouri to the East Coast.



Displeased by the increased travel for league play, Eastern officials last month at the NCAA Convention in San Diego submitted a formal proposal to the OVC for acceptance into the league.

If accepted, Eastern would begin OVC play in the fall of 1996, but McBee stressed Wednesday that acceptance is far from a certainty.

"(OVC officials) will sit down at some point in March, either by meeting or by a conference call and talk about the pluses and minuses (of Eastern's acceptance)," McBee said.

"It's by no means a given that we're in, but I think we've got a lot of good things going for us, and we just have to keep emphasizing those."

Eastern vs. Valparaiso



(14-9, 9-6) (15-8, 11-4)

Tipoff

- 5:15 p.m. at Lantz Gym

Last meeting

- Lady Panthers beat Valpo 80-72 at the Athletics-Recreation Center last month.



Inside the numbers

- Lady Crusaders have won 13 of their last 16, but Eastern is 6-2 in league play at home.

Player to watch

- Eastern guard Tourrie Frazier set personal highs with 25 points and 10 rebounds against Central Connecticut on Monday.

Eastern vs. Valparaiso



(15-10, 9-6) (17-6, 13-2)

Tipoff

- 7:35 p.m. at Lantz Gym

Radio/TV

- WEIU FM radio, 7:35 p.m.
- WEIU-TV, tape delay, 10 p.m.

Last meeting

- Crusaders edged Eastern 78-74 last month in Indiana.

Inside the numbers

- Valparaiso comes to Charleston riding an 11-game winning streak, the fourth longest Division I string in the nation, but the Panthers are hot as well, winners of five straight for the first time since 1991-92.

Player to watch

- Michael Slaughter, Eastern's leading rebounder, was out with an injury during Eastern's defeat to Valpo last month, but will be on the floor this time.

Dempsey

• From Page 12

In fact, Eastern is in control of this particular series, winning 10 of the last 13 meetings overall.

Forget that Eastern had a slow start this season.

Forget that they were as low as eighth place in the Mid-Continent Conference earlier in the year.

Eastern has been reborn big time and is winning games in ways that contradict rational thinking.

The Panthers shot just 32 percent from the field in the first half on Monday night but still coasted to a 16-point victory. They were also out-dunked eight to two but Eric Frankford's reverse slam and Johnny Moore's "look I can fly" dunk outclassed anything the Blue Devils had to offer.

Speaking of class, or lack thereof, Central Connecticut's Pavel Petrov felt the need to flip off the crowd after he made a meaningless three-pointer with time running out.

Maybe that's just the way people from Russia wave goodbye.

Anyway, Lantz Gym is now leading the nation with two obscene gesture incidents this season.

If the Panthers claim a victory and manage to go on to win the Mid-Con Tournament, it will be the first time an Eastern team ends the season with a victory since the 1987-88 season.

Not having an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament does leave a stale taste in the mouth, but it would be great to see Landrus and Jordan go out in style. And it would definitely be a plus to keep the feeling of victory instilled in those who will return next season.

So open the often closed curtain on the North side of Lantz and pull out those bleachers.

Tonight we just may need them.

Swimmers

♣ From Page 12

think it balances out."

One hangup on the conference tournament is that there is no national meet for teams, only for individuals.

"Just like in track, you can individually qualify for the national meet anytime during the season with a national qualifying time," Padovan said. "So as far as conference, who finishes first and second, had no bearing on the national tournament."

As for any Eastern swimmers qualifying for nationals, Padovan doubts it.

"National qualifying times are at such a level, I can say with fair confidence that there will not be one player in this conference that will reach the national tournament, and probably 80 percent of the conferences in this United States. The standards they have now are ridiculous."


Padovan is doubtful at this point if men's diver Mark Donovan will be able to compete in the meet.

He is still nursing a hand injury he suffered against the St. Louis University.

"We're trying to see if he can alter his diving at this point, just get through some considerably simpler dives," he said. "He obviously won't be able to do what he was hoping to do. He'll go to the meet no matter what and help our other divers."

To keep his swimmers rested, Padovan says he will try to balance his swimmers to one meet per day plus some relays.

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Paul Dempsey

Associate Sports editor



Big crowd could lead to Panther win

Eastern's men's basketball team needs your help.

The Panthers host conference leader Valparaiso tonight in their final regular season home game. If there ever was a time Eastern needed a large and noisy crowd, tonight's the night.

"They're coming in here with one of the longest winning streaks in the nation," head coach Rick Samuels said of Valpo. "It's our last home game for a couple of seniors. I think it's a great night to get them.

"We need a big, boisterous crowd and we'll just take it to 'em."

Eastern, which has won five games in a row, has moved into sole possession of fourth place in the Mid-Con and is in serious contention to challenge for second place.

The Panthers have been reborn under very inspired and unselfish play and, unlike the last time they faced Valpo, the Panthers are healthy.

Sophomore forward Michael Slaughter wasn't in uniform on Jan. 21 when the Panthers dropped a four-point contest to Valpo. Slaughter, who is a big reason for the resurgence of this once forgotten team, will definitely be ready tonight.

Seniors Louis Jordan and Derrick Landrus will also have extra fire power as they will be honored as part of Senior Night in what may be their last ever appearance in Lantz.

The Crusaders come to Charleston after a home victory over Troy State that ensured them of at least a tie for the regular season Mid-Con title.

Valpo brings along a 10-game winning streak, a 13-2 conference record, the conference's leading rebounder (Chris Ensminger), the conference's second leading scorer (David Redmon) and blah, blah, blah, blah.

You could throw impressive stats at Samuels' club all day but the Panthers know Valpo is beatable, especially in Lantz Gym.

The Crusaders have an impressive 12-0 home record this season but the road hasn't been very nice to them.

Valpo is 5-6 away from the friendly confines of the Athletics-Recreation Center and has won just three times in its last 13 tries at Lantz.

• See **DEMPSEY** Page 11

Time for show and tell

Hopeful Eastern ready to host Ohio Valley officials

By **ROBERT MANKER**
Senior reporter

If things look a little bit nicer in Lantz Gym today and Friday, there's a good reason why.

Ten representatives from the Ohio Valley Conference will arrive on campus this afternoon to examine athletic facilities, meet with administrators and take in a little basketball before leaving Friday afternoon.

The visit is a key component in a series of events that could lead to Eastern's

acceptance into the league by early summer.

"There's not a whole lot to it," Eastern Athletic Director Bob McBee said of the visit. "We're just going to try and be as hospitable as we can, win a ball game or two, put our best foot forward and go from there."

McBee said the visiting group will consist of two OVC university presidents, seven athletic directors and OVC Commissioner Dan Beebe.

"I don't think their commissioner has been here before, but several other mem-

bers of their contingency have," McBee said. "Most of them are pretty familiar with us. Their teams have played Eastern in one sport or another over the years."

McBee said the visitors will arrive between 3 and 5 p.m. today and leave Charleston sometime Friday afternoon. They are expected to attend tonight's men's and women's basketball games at Lantz Gym, but McBee said those games likely will bear no significance on the group's impressions of Eastern.

† See **OVC** Page 11

Lantz Gym's senior sendoff

Lady Panthers look to send Polka out as a winner – finally

By **JOHN BATES**
Staff writer

The Lady Panthers will be wrapping up their home regular-season schedule tonight at 5:15 against Valparaiso, and while virtually all of the youth will return next season, one very distinct Lady Panther will be wrapping up her career in Lantz.

Senior point guard Nicky Polka will be playing her last regular season game in Lantz Gym, finishing an outstanding career.

Statistically she is having her finest season, leading the Mid-Continent Conference in three-point field-goal percentage (45 percent) and assists (5.8 per game) and is averaging 11.5 points a game, which is her highest point-producing season of her career.

Polka's 141 assists this season moved her to second on Eastern's all-time list with 600, and she is third with 147 steals and second with 89 three-point field goals.

Although she's played exceptional this season, she has played on some very poor Lady Panther teams – until this season.

"It helps to see her end her career on that kind of a note," head coach John Klein said. "It would have been very frus-



JOANNE CLARK/Staff photographer
Point guard Nicky Polka, the Lady Panthers' lone senior, will bid her goodbye to Lantz Gym along with Derrick Landrus and Louis Jordan of the men's basketball team when both teams host Valparaiso tonight.

trating and sad to have her end her career on a very low note, meaning another year of abysmal performances and records by our team."

Eastern (14-9; 9-6 in conference) is currently fifth in the conference and has assured itself a spot in the post-

♥ See **WOMEN** Page 11

Men's squad puts 5-game win streak on line vs. Valpo

By **DAN FIELDS**
Staff writer

When there's two streaks on the line, something's gotta give.

The Eastern men's basketball team hosts a key Mid-Continent Conference match-up this evening when takes on the Valparaiso Crusaders at 7:35 p.m. at Lantz Gym.

Tonight will be senior night, with seniors Louis Jordan and Derrick Landrus possibly playing their final game at Lantz if the Panthers fail to secure a home game in the Mid-Con postseason tournament.

Valparaiso (17-6 overall, 13-2 conference) comes into the game winners of its last 10 – the fourth longest current winning streak in Division I. The Crusaders, who have already claimed at least a tie for the regular season Mid-Con championship, suffered their last loss on Jan. 14 when they traveled down to Troy State and were upended by the Trojans by a 93-76 score.

The Panthers (15-10, 9-6) own a five-game overall and conference winning streak, their longest of the season. The last time Eastern has had that many consecutive wins was at the beginning of the 1991-92 season when they

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End could be here for swim team

Mid-Con Tourney could be the finish line for men's squad

By **ANTHONY NASELLA**
Staff writer

Eastern swimmer Drew Shepherdson is trying hard not to think about it. But when Eastern travels to Buffalo, N.Y. today to participate in the Mid-Continent Conference postseason meet, it might be his last meet as

an Eastern student.

With threats of Title IX gender equity likely to drown the Eastern men's swimming program, Shepherdson and the rest of the men's team, will be faced with a tough decision when the semester concludes.

"I don't even know what to say about it right now," Shepherdson admitted. "I'm just hoping for the best. But who knows. I know I'm going to have to make a big decision – whether to stay or go."

As for the favorites in the meet, which will run through Sunday, coach

Ray Padovan believes that the University of Buffalo's men's and women's squads will be the teams to beat.

Others to contend, according to Padovan, should be Valparaiso, Central Connecticut State, Western Illinois and the Panthers.

"For the women and men, it's pretty much a toss up between us, Valpo and Central Connecticut," he said. "Connecticut's women aren't too strong. But we've also lost a bit this season. So I

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